

Activity:	Construction Planning
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Activity Summary

Program Components	2002 Enacted	2003 Estimate	2004			Change From 2003 (+/-)
			Uncontr/ Related Changes	Program Changes (+/-)	Budget Request	
Construction Planning	25,400	25,400	0	-920	24,480	-920
Total Requirements	25,400	25,400	0	-920	24,480	-920

Authorization

16 U.S.C. 1 The National Park Service Organic Act

Activity Overview

This activity accomplishes special technical investigations, surveys, and comprehensive design necessary for preliminary planning, and to ensure that initial phases of the development planning process allows for the proper scheduling, information gathering, and compliance requirements to successfully complete construction projects. Funds are used to acquire archeological, historical, environmental, and engineering information and prepare comprehensive designs, working drawings, and specification documents needed to construct or rehabilitate facilities in areas throughout the National Park System.

FY 2004 Base Program Overview

This activity consists of the resources needed for a two step planning process to assure the satisfactory completion of large construction projects. The first, pre-design, supplementary services, and compliance reports includes tasks that need to be completed before final design starts and construction documents are completed. These typically include project programming and budgeting, environmental and cultural resources analysis, existing condition surveys, site analysis, geotechnical engineering, utilities studies, and surveys. Supplementary services and compliance reporting are tasks that are usually completed concurrently with pre-design activities. These typically include natural, cultural and archeological investigations, special consultations, fire security, safety, ergonomics, rendering, modeling, special graphic services, life-cycle cost analysis, value analysis studies, energy studies, resources compliance studies, hazardous materials surveys, detailed cost estimating, monitoring, and testing and mitigation.

The second process is project design. Project design includes the preparation of preliminary and final architectural, landscape and engineering drawings and specifications necessary for the construction of utilities, roads and structures. Under this activity final construction drawings and specifications are prepared and final cost estimates and contract-bidding documents are developed. Without completion of these tasks, actual construction awards could never be made. Architectural/engineering contractors will accomplish almost all of project design activity. The funding level requested will enable the Service to keep pace with the large line item construction program backlog of non-road reconstruction and replacement projects on the recently revised Servicewide Construction Project Listing.

Construction planning criteria can change from year to year, but generally, priority consideration is normally given in the following order based on:

1. Planning and design for previously appropriated line item construction projects.
2. Planning and design for line item construction projects appropriated in the current fiscal year.
3. Planning and design for Congressionally added projects in the current fiscal year.
4. Projects or phased components of projects of the National Park Service's 5-year Construction Program scheduled and approved for funding by the Service' Development Advisory Board (DAB) within the next two fiscal years.

Construction planning is included in the construction line item estimates for Everglades National Park, Florida-Modified Water Delivery, Olympic National Park, Washington-Restore Elwha River Ecosystems, and the White House, Washington, D.C.-Rehabilitate and Restore the Executive Residence and President's Park.

The NPS has increased its efforts to prepare capital asset plans for major construction projects, consistent with OMB Circular A-11 and the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act. These plans identify the cost, schedule, and performance goals of proposed projects and then track the project's progress in meeting those goals. Of the 59 Line Item Construction projects listed in the Comprehensive Table, several do not require planning resulting in a decreased amount needed for this program for FY 2004.